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By:

Robert Brachmeyer

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Fuerst et al.

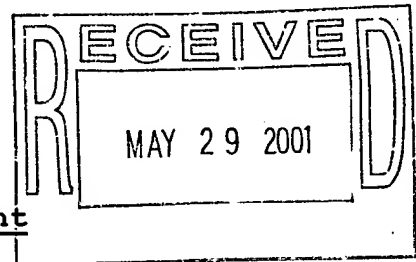
SERIAL No.: 09/769,066

FILED: January 24, 2001

FOR: HEPATITIS E VIRUS ANTIGENS AND
USES THEREFOR

EXAMINER: Unknown

ART UNIT: 1648

Second Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Omitted Item(s) in a Nonprovisional Application dated May 11, 2001 in the above-identified application, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 28 of page 10 with the paragraph below:

Figures 2A to 2D, presents the nucleotide sequence of ORF2 and ORF3, showing the nucleotide sequences of the HEV ORF2 and ORF3 for Burma (upper line) and Mexico (lower line) strains of HEV;

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